



President of the Faculty Senate

TO : Faculty Senate
FROM: Andrew Wright, President of the UALR Assembly and Faculty Senate
SUBJECT: International Bacculaureate Processes
DATE: December 5, 2016
NUMBER: FSM-2016-13

This memo interprets legislation passed on 3/16/2007. There is slight confusion regarding how to apply the International Bacculaureate (IB) legislation in conjunction with other legislation, such as the AP legislation (9/15/2000), standardized tests for credit (10/24/1972), ACE credit (12/5/2008), and standardized placement test (FS_2016_34, 11/18/2016).

The International Bacculaureate diploma is a credential awarded to high school students that includes significant college preparatory work. There are two levels that may be offered, standard level (SL) and higher level (HL), so the specific course credit that may be awarded at UALR can vary based on the IB curriculum completed. Students are scored on each of the areas in the diploma on a score of 1-7.

The Faculty Senate passed legislation to award credit at UALR based on completion of the IB program:
At least twenty-four (24) semester credit hours or equivalent undergraduate course credit shall be granted entering freshman students who have successfully completed the International Bacculaureate Diploma Program. Specific credit to be awarded shall be determined within existing guidelines.

Interpretation of Legislation: Because there are a variety of ways whereby a student may achieve credit for a specific course (for instance, IB, AP, CLEP, placement test, concurrent, transfer course, UALR course), under no circumstances should a student receive multiple credits for the same course.

Interpretation of Legislation: If the student's IB curriculum has a subject at the Standard Level, and, by means other than the IB, the student gains credit for a UALR course that is mapped to the same subject at the Higher Level, then such credit does not count toward the minimum 24 credits granted for the IB.

Interpretation of Legislation: Because UALR awards a minimum of 24 credits when it accepts the IB diploma, any extra credits that are not assigned to specific UALR courses by other means shall be awarded as general lower level elective credit. This credit will apply to minimum credit hour requirements but will not be counted into gpa calculations or count towards the residency requirement.

These interpretations should be sufficient to allow students to receive credit consistent with our legislation. The interactions of the various pieces of legislation, which were consolidated due to FS_2016_28, 5/6/2016, make it clear that a clean-up of these separate pieces of legislation is needed. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee will undertake this clean-up and bring the legislation for the January Faculty Senate meeting.